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NEWPORT PAGNELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1945

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	61,686
Number of Inhabited Houses ...	4,328
Rateable Value	£60,647
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£250/-/9d.
Estimated Population (R.G.1944)	13,920

VITAL STATISTICS

Total Births	261
Males Legitimate	132
" Illegitimate	9
Females Legitimate	114
" Illegitimate	6
Birth Rate per 1,000	18.74
Still Births, Total	9
Males Legitimate	5
" Illegitimate	-
Females Legitimate	3
" Illegitimate	1

DEATHS

Total	204
Males	100
Females	104
Estimated Population (R.G.1944)	13,920
Death Rate per 1,000	14.65
Deaths of Infants under 1 year :-	
Total	15
Males Legitimate	6
" Illegitimate	2
Females Legitimate	5
" Illegitimate	2
Deaths from Measles	1
do. Whooping Cough	1
do. Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs of age)	2

SECTION B. There has been no change under this heading.

SECTION C.

WATER

The Olney Source

The supply from this source has been generally maintained, but some shortage occurred at Hanslope during the summer. Consequently it was necessary to cut off the supply at night for a short period.

Changes at the Works - Since the occurrence of this shortage a new well has been sunk and an additional pump obtained for this well. Additions have also been made to the Filters and Re-action Tank. With these improvements the supply should prove adequate.

Bacteriological Examinations. These have been made every two or three months of both the raw and treated water. All the results were satisfactory, and the Reports of the Analyst of the treated water showed that the water was of a high degree of bacterial purity.

Extension of mains - Main has been carried from Emberton to Petsoe End. In addition to this, there have been further extensions to farms in the Hanslope Area.

82 new connections were made during the year from this source.

Birchmoor Source

The service has been well maintained and the supply has proved satisfactory.

53 new connections were made from this source during the year.

Great Linford Supply

This supply was taken over by the Council in October 1945. Since then a pump house has been erected and two new Electric Pumps installed to replace the existing Diesel pump. Consideration has also been given to the installation of a Chlorine Plant.

Previous to the installation of the new pumps, the water was found to be not bacteriologically pure, but since the installation there has been considerable improvement.

The Haversham Supply

During the year a new Pump House has been erected and the existing pumps installed. Also a new collecting chamber has been constructed and the springs linked up to this chamber.

During the year the supply has been ample and the service well maintained. The Council are considering further improvements in the pumping conditions as soon as there is an increased electric supply available.

The Pumps are not big enough, and larger ones require a larger supply which is not at present available.

Bacteriological Reports - Analyses have been made at intervals. In every case the Analyst Reports showed that the water was pure and wholesome and fit for domestic and drinking purposes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Northern Division

The Sewage Schemes for Emberton, Hanslope and Lavendon are still in abeyance. The shortage of labour and materials throughout the country is no doubt the reason why no progress has been made. I hope that before long labour and materials will be available and that these Schemes will be completed.

Other Schemes have worked satisfactorily.

A number of improvements in the drainage of individual and isolated properties has been effected. Baths and W.C's have been constructed with drainage into cesspools or septic tanks.

Southern Division

The same remarks apply to the Sewage Schemes for Bradwell and Bow Brickhill.

Little Brickhill Drainage

In connection with the Dortmund Tank which deals with the drainage of this Village, it would be a great and necessary improvement if a coke filter was provided to treat the effluent before it runs into the public ditch. This could be carried out at no great cost as far as I can see as there would be no difficulty in providing gravitational feeds.

SCAVENGING

Northern Division

New Scheme

One Refuse Collecting Vehicle of 10 c.yd. and one 750 gallon Emptier with Night Soil attachment have been in use since October. The Scheme is working most satisfactorily in all the Parishes to the north of the Bedford-Wolverton Road. Some difficulty has been experienced with regard to labour, but, in spite of this, the system has been a great improvement on the old open cart system as carried out under Contract. I hope the Scheme will be shortly extended to the whole district.

Centralization of Dumps

This has been a great advantage from the health point of view. There are now only four dumps :-

1. Gravel Pits at Stoke Goldington for Refuse and Night Soil.
2. Haversham for Refuse.
3. Lavendon for Refuse
4. Olney for Night Soil.

Southern Division

The combined Scavenging Scheme for the Parishes of Woburn Sands, Bow Brickhill, Little Brickhill, Bradwell and Great Linford has worked more satisfactorily during the year than previously. Now three men are employed, whereas formerly there was a shortage. Towards the end of the year the Council requested that some system of Scavenging should be carried out in the following Parishes, Shenley Church End, Loughton, Willen & Woolstone, Woughton, Walton, Milton Keynes, Broughton and Moulsoe. At present there is no Scavenging System for these Parishes. It is obvious that a Scavenging system would be a great advantage.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Considerable progress has been made with the Housing Programme and the foresight of the Council in preparing their plans in advance is now beginning to bear fruit.

I have set out in tabular form the progress already made under the following headings

1. Sites for which negotiations are still in progress.
2. Sites already acquired by the Council.
3. Sites already owned by the Council.
4. Plans for houses submitted to the Ministry of Health.
5. Tenders advertised for.
6. Houses in course of erection.

The programme is a comprehensive one. At the start the Council already owned 6 sites in 6 different Parishes. Nine sites in 9 Parishes have since been acquired, and 6 sites in 6 other Parishes are the subject of negotiation.

Plans for 56 houses are awaiting the approval of the Ministry. Tenders for 10 houses are being advertised.

16 Houses are already in course of construction.

Sites for which negotiations are still in progress

Astwood	2 acres
Lavendon	3 acres
Milton Keynes	1 acre
Ravenstone	1 acre
Stoke Goldington	1½ acres
Shenley-Church-End	1½ acres

Sites already acquired by the Council

Hardmead	1½ acres
Lathbury	1 acre
Bradwell	1½ acres
Castlethorpe	½ acre
Moulsoe	3 acres
Woughton	1 acre
Woburn Sands	5 acres
Bow Brickhill	2 acres
Little Brickhill	1 acre

Sites already owned by the Council

Hanslope	½ acre
Lavendon	1 acre
Olney	5 acres
Weston Underwood	½ acre
Loughton	½ acre
Wavendon	½ acre

Plans submitted to Ministry of Health for following Houses

Weston Underwood	4 houses
Woughton	8 houses
Woburn Sands	32 houses
Bow Brickhill	12 houses

Tenders advertised for

Loughton	4 houses
Lt. Brickhill	6 houses

Houses in course of construction

Hanslope	4 houses
Lavendon	4 houses
Castlethorpe	4 houses
Wavendon	4 houses

SECTION E.

FOOD

As usual routine inspections have been carried out. 2239 lbs. of food stuffs found diseased or unsound have been found unfit for human consumption. The food was condemned and suitably disposed of.

MILK

Wholesale Production

9 cowsheds have been re-conditioned or re-constructed as was found necessary.

There is a considerable trend towards improvement in the quality of production. This is indicated by the number of 'Graded' and 'T.T.' producers.

Retail

Retail supplies, other than graded, have been tested. Where found unsatisfactory prompt action has been taken and the trouble found eliminated.

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Table 1.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the Year 1945

Disease.	Total Cases Notified Civilian	Total Cases Notified Non-Civilian	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	21	2	13	
Diphtheria	1		1	
Pheumonia	7			
Puerperal Pyrexia	13			
Erysipelas	2			
Opthalmia Neonatorum	2			
Bacillary Dysentery	1			
Measles	139			
Whooping Cough	6			

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Contd)

The Cases occurred in the following Parishes

SCARLET FEVER

Parish	Male.	Female.	Total.
Bow Brickhill		1	1
Lathbury		2	2
Olney	4	2	6
Sherington	1		1
Castlethorpe		1	1
Tyringham		1	1
Moulsoe	2		2
Little Brickhill	2	3	5
Hanslope	1	1	2
Total :-	10.	11.	21.

DIPHTHERIA

Emberton		1.	1.

PNEUMONIA

Woughton	1		1
Old Bradwell	2		2
Shenley Church End	1		1
Olney	1	1	2
Loughton		1	1
Total :-	5.	2.	7.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

East End Maternity Hospital, Tyringham		12.	12.
Chicheley		1.	1.
Total :-		13.	13.

ERYSIPELAS

Castlethorpe		1.	1.
Woburn Sands	1.		1.
Total :-	1.	1.	2.

OPTHALMIA NEONATORUM

East End Maternity Hospital, Tyringhan	2.		2.

BACILLARY DYSENTERY

Sherington	1.		1.

MEASLES	Male	Female	Total
Haversham	9	8	17
Tyringham		1	1
Loughton	1	2	3
Old Bradwell	1		1
Little Brickhill	3	4	7
Astwood	3	2	5
Weston Underwood	4	4	8
Bow Brickhill	2	1	3
Shenley Church End		2	2
Ravenstone	5	2	7
Hardmead	1	1	2
Woughton	1		1
Broughton	1	1	2
Milton Keynes	7	3	10
Woburn Sands	9	10	19
Olney	15	10	25
Lavendon	2	3	5
Moulsoe	1	1	2
Clifton Reynes	2	4	6
Wavendon		1	1
Sherington	2		2
Little Woolstone		1	1
Woughton		1	1
Emberton	2	6	8
Total	71	68	139

WHOOPING COUGH			
Loughton	1	2	3
Haversham	1	1	2
Woughton	1		1
Total	3	3	6

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TABLE II.

Disease	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Pneumonia.		Puerperal. Pyrexia		Erysipelas.		Ophthalmia Neonatorum.		Bacillary Dysentery.		Measles.		Whoop-ing Cough	
Age Period	Notifications	Admitted to Hospital	N.	A to H	N.	A to H	N.	A to H	N.	A to H	N.	A to H	N.	A to H	N.	A to H	N.	A to H
Under 1 Year											2							
1 - 2 Yrs															13			
2 - 3 Yrs															10		1	
3 - 4 Yrs					1										14		1	
4 - 5 Yrs	1	1													9		1	
5 - 10 Yrs	10	5													78		2	
10 - 15 Yrs	6	5											1		9		1	
15 - 20 Yrs	2	1					1								2			
20 - 35 Yrs	1		1	1	1		11								2			
35 - 45 Yrs	1	1					1								1			
45 - 65 Yrs					2										1			
Over 65					3				2									
Total :-	21	13	1	1	7		13		2		2		1		139		6	

TABLE III

TUBERCULOSIS - New cases notified during 1945

Age Period	Pulmonary Male	Pulmonary Female	Non-Pulmonary Male	Non-Pulmonary Female
Under 1 Year				
1 - 5 Years				
5 - 10 years				
10 - 15 Years				1
15 - 20 Years	1			
20 - 25 Years		1		
25 - 35 Years		4		
35 - 45 Years				
45 - 55 Years				
55 - 65 Years				1
Total :-	1	5		2

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During the Year 145 children have been immunised. Of these 142 were under 5 and 3 between 5 - 15 years.

I append a list of how these numbers are made up.

	Under 5 years	5 - 15 years
INFANT WELFARE CENTRES		
Newport Pagnell	7	
Olney	46	
Lavendon	7	
Woburn Sands	38	
Bradwell	35	
LITTLE BRICKHILL SCHOOL	7	3
IMMUNISED PRIVATELY	2	
	142	3

As was to be expected, most of the cases were done at the Infant Welfare Centres.

Little Brickhill School was visited and 10 children immunised.

I have only records of 2 children being done privately, but I have no doubt more than this figure shows were immunised, but I have no records of them.

As a matter of interest, I append a Table showing the number of Notifications of Diphtheria received during the last 10 yrs.

/See over

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION (Contd)

1936	5	1941	9
1937	6	1942	Nil
1938	2	1943	Nil
1939	9	1944	4
1940	16	1945	1
	38		14

These figures are far too small to allow any reliable deduction to be drawn, except the fact that the numbers of cases notified in the last 4 years have considerably diminished. It is also to be noted that of the 4 cases notified in 1944 and the 1 notified in 1945 none had been immunised. I do not know what the statistics for other Districts are, but the number of notifications throughout the country have considerably diminished and the death rate from Diphtheria has fallen.

From the end of this year the Welfare Authority will be responsible for the immunisation of children under 5, but this Council will still be responsible for those between 5 - 15 years. I shall therefore visit the various schools in the District from time to time in order to immunise children between 5 - 15, but if younger children are brought up I should, of course, do them, the essential thing is to get the children immunised irrespective of which Authority does them.

This concludes my Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHAS. H. F. BAILEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

8th May, 1946.